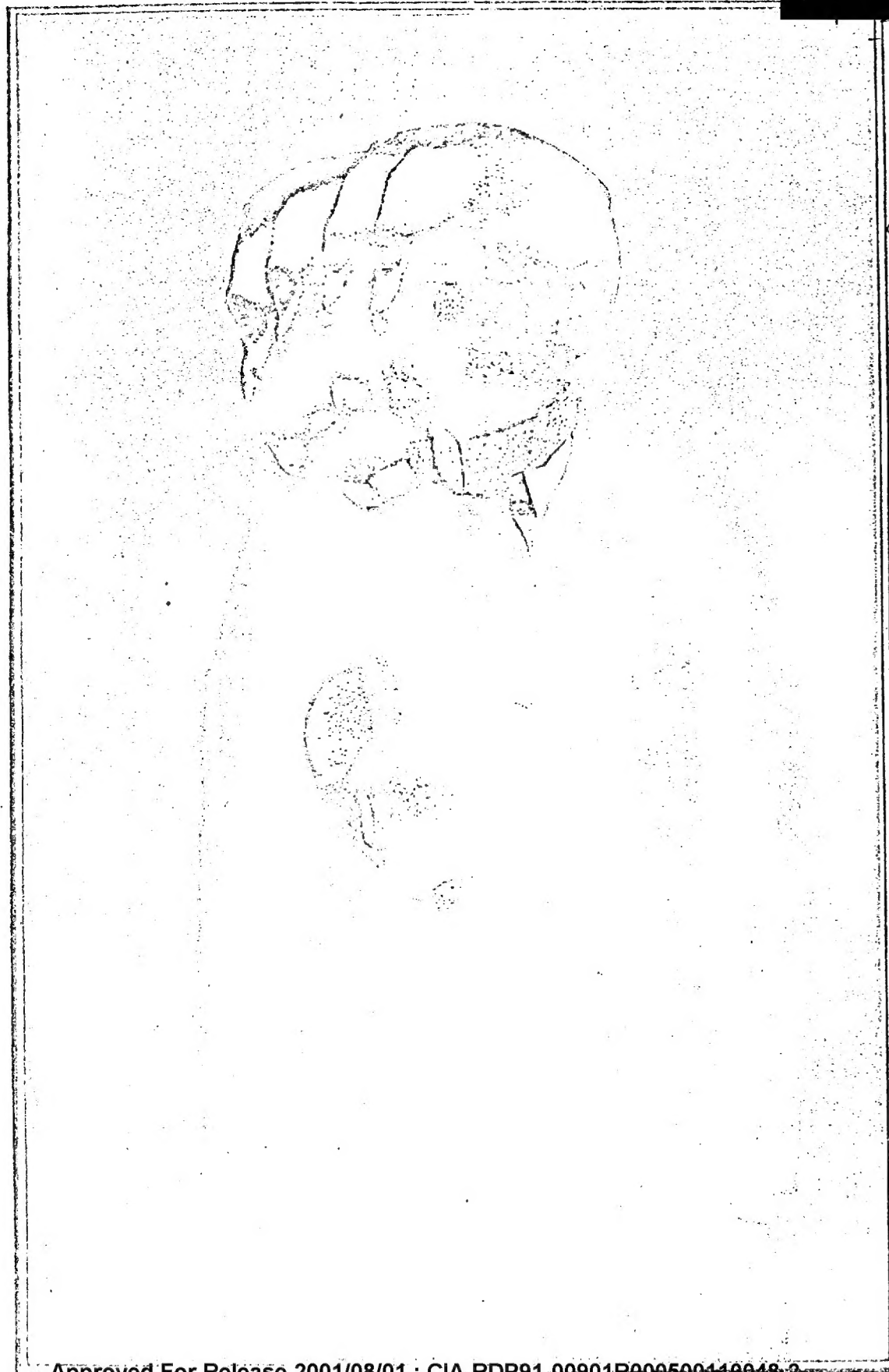


Institutional Dirty Tricks



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CIA: Criticism, inquiry, antagonism

WASHINGTON—Since the Bay of Pigs, when the United States lost its gamble under the Kennedy administration to overthrow Fidel Castro, the Central Intelligence Agency has suffered in many areas of public opinion.

It has also suffered internally, going thru a succession of directors and losing other key people under three Presidents [starting with Kennedy] who did not totally believe what the CIA reports were saying.

The CIA was created in 1949 by the late President Truman [as the Central Intelligence Group] from the skeleton of the wartime Office of Strategic Studies. It was formed in an effort to collect information [or spy] on other nations as much as they did on us. From the start, it was an agency cloaked in semi-secrecy noted for generating debate.

An early director, Adm. Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter, had warned the Truman administration of the then impending Communist invasion of South Korea—and apparently was replaced for his accurate prediction by Gen. Walter Bedell Smith.

Smith then grabbed headlines [during the Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy period] by stating in public there was a "moral certainty" that Communist spies had penetrated every security agency in Washington.

Smith did not last long at the CIA after that and was replaced by the

pipe-smoking Allen W. Dulles, brother of John Foster Dulles, President Eisenhower's secretary of state. Dulles put McCarthy down after the senator charged there were double agents operating within the CIA.

Dulles, the first civilian chief of the CIA, came off as sort of a super-spy because of his exploits in the OSS during World War II. After staving off McCarthy, he continued to build the CIA from a small agency [starting with 1,500 agents] to a worldwide network that began to do more than make estimates of what foreign powers might do.

Still, the Hoover commission looked into the operations of the agency and came up with a report saying it was lacking in collecting "intelligence data from behind the Iron Curtain." Meanwhile, the CIA squabbled with the long-established intelligence arms of the three military services. In one case it had enough clout to get the Army's chief of intelligence [G-2] fired.

By 1953 the CIA was spending \$350,000,000 a year [now it is spending about \$2 billion]. A year later it was warning that there was an intensive Communist drive underway in Latin America. And then the roof began to fall in on the agency after its secret spy plane, the U-2, was shot down over Russia. The incident caused even more drama and the cancellation of a United States-Russian summit meeting, along

with a public trial of pilot Francis G. Powers.

The public clamor really began, tho, after the attempted invasion of Cuba ordered by the late President Kennedy. The late Robert F. Kennedy personally ran an investigation of the agency as blame for the fiasco began to fall on the CIA for furnishing faulty data. After a short period of grace, Dulles left as director to be replaced by John A. McCone, a business executive.

Adm. William F. [Red] Raborn followed in the Johnson administration. Raborn's biggest early flap was a charge the CIA got involved in an Indonesian government upheaval. But the involvement also spread to the Congo, Viet Nam, and apparently to some domestic intelligence activities. The deputy director then was Richard Helms, a career government management expert.

Helms moved up to director during the Johnson era of 1966, assuring Congress that the CIA did not create foreign policy. Helms continued to feel public heat because of the CIA financing of foundations and student activities. He was defended by Sen. Kennedy at the time.

When Mr. Nixon became President, one of his first moves was to install a trusted associate of long standing—Marine Gen. Robert Cushman—as deputy director of the CIA. After getting his own reading on the agency, the President promoted Cushman to commandant of the corps—and is sending Helms to Iran as ambassador. Tomorrow we will report on the new director,

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